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the articles were written by members of the club. The book covers more topics and gives larger detail than some similar works published in England, France, and Germany, though it is not so voluminous. Perhaps no work of the kind gives more detail on hygiene, medicine, and surgery (90 pp.), and its suggestions under this head are adapted for all climates.

Much attention is given to travel with pack horses, mules, burros, and dogs in the Americas, the one-humped camel in Africa and Arabia, and the two-humped camel in parts of Asia; to foot transport in tropical Africa and in mountain work, etc. Route surveying covers 13 pages. Dr. A. Hamilton Rice has 15 pages on traverse surveys in South America, and John T. Coolidge, Jr., 10 pages on photography.

The chapter on geography, by Professor W. M. Davis, should help the explorer to give an accurate account of what he sees. The same writer's paper on geology is full of suggestion and counsel, especially for those who have not had long experience in extended geological field study. Professor R. DeC. Ward writes on meteorological observations. Anthropology, natural history collections, and determining position by astronomical observations are also among the topics.

OUR NATIONAL PARKS

R. S. YARD. **The Book of the National Parks.** xv and 420 pp.; maps, diagrs., ill. Charles Scribner's Sons, New York, 1919. \$3.00. 8½ x 6 inches.

Mr. Yard has been chief of the Educational Division of the National Park Service for the past six years. He is well equipped to write such a book as this. His aim is to advance the popularity of our National Parks and to help visitors appreciate the grand scenery in them. His work is educational and will tend to promote more enjoyment of the parks because it leads to a better understanding of them. Mr. Yard had the advice and suggestions of many men of science in making his book accurate and full of the kind of information that is both educational and enjoyable.

Take the Muir Woods as an example. They cover a canyon of Mt. Tamalpais, near San Francisco, and thousands of tourists visit them. Not one in a hundred of them ever knows, unless he reads such a description as Mr. Yard gives, that here is a perfect exhibit of the original redwood forest, once spread far and wide but most of it now sacrificed for lumber. Some of these trees are 300 feet high with a diameter of 18 feet. This bit of California, left untouched, shows what the redwood forest has been.

The book describes not only our National Parks (including the Hawaii National Park with its boiling lavas) but also scores of objects that are called National Monuments and are protected against vandalism. Among them are prehistoric cave houses in the southwestern arid regions, ruins of a church built by Indian converts with adobe walls six feet thick, cliff towns, cave dwellings, natural bridges created by erosion, and many other objects, natural or made by man. The book is finely illustrated by photographs.

MUIR'S ARCTIC NOTES

JOHN MUIR. **The Cruise of the Corwin: Journal of the Arctic Expedition of 1881 in Search of De Long and the Jeannette.** Edit. by W. F. Badè. xxxii and 279 pp.; map, ill., index. Houghton Mifflin Co., Boston and New York, 1917. \$2.75. 8 x 5½ inches.

The dispatch in 1881 of the United States revenue steamer *Thomas Corwin* into Arctic waters in search of two missing whalers and especially of the ill-fated *Jeannette*, which under De Long had not been heard from since 1879, afforded Muir a long-wished-for opportunity to pursue one of his favorite studies, evidences of glaciation in the Arctic regions, a quest that had always fascinated him in his more southerly field work. His book contains many concise descriptions of the results of glaciation found on the land borders which he had an opportunity to visit during this cruise both along American and Asian coasts; and a number of his illustrations show glacial valleys and ridges and other effects of moving ice sheets.

Especially interesting is his graphic account of the life of the Eskimos on the islands and along the reaches of the American and Asian mainland. Few writers have so graphically depicted them in their daily life, their hardships, and their superstitions. His book is rich in descriptions of the flora he collected on the islands and along the edges of the continental coasts. The only map is a reduction of the map of Wrangel Island made by officers of the ship *Rogers* in the same year and a merely preliminary bit of work. Muir's descriptions make a photographic impression on the mind of the careful reader. His power of vivid description is well illustrated in the passage on page 62.

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